

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Title with the following Title:

POWDER PARTICLES WITH SMOOTH SURFACE FOR USE IN INHALATION  
THERAPY

Please insert the following text as a separate paragraph before line 1 on page 1:

This application is a Continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 10/030,686 filed on April 16, 2002, now allowed, which is a 371 of PCT/EP00/06690 filed on July 13, 2000.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The carrier of the invention can be prepared using a high-speed mixer-granulator, an apparatus designed and normally used for agglomerating solid particles and not for smoothing them individually. This generally consists of a cylindrical chamber with a ~~chamfered~~ chambered bottom, in which a rotating paddle is inserted, and once this is running at a suitable speed it causes the powder contained within the cylindrical chamber to roll along the chamber walls. The mixing chamber is sealed by a cover, which contains a sprayer for adding a liquid, and can operate in controlled conditions of temperature and pressure. Until now, this type of equipment has been used exclusively for the preparation of granules or pellets, i.e. to agglomerate the individual particles, by means of a liquid binder, to give more complex structures, called granules.